

Mary Lou Terrien

From: Melissa Arrowsmith <melissa.arrowsmith1@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2016 3:37 PM
To: Mary Lou Terrien
Subject: Please oppose HB 5232

Hello,

I would like to provide for the written record a statement of opposition to House Bill 5232 in any form.

As a Michigan native who grew up in the historic (designated) village of Milford, I chose to pursue preservation as my career. Now 25 years old, I have a bachelors degree in historic preservation and am currently in grad school for urban planning and have studied the many benefits to the community as a whole that historic districts provide. It is urgent that this bill be opposed because our historic districts are what makes Michigan places special, and because the changes this bill makes will inevitably cause irreversible damage to our historic built environment. It is necessary that this bill be shot down, if this is a state that cares about the integrity and longevity of our identity and shared community history.

As I enter my career, I hoped to work and contribute to historic preservation in my home state of Michigan, but if this bill goes through it will weigh heavily on my choice to stay here. I say this because the state already has trouble maintaining young, educated individuals, and I have seen many of my peers leave the state for better opportunity. I love Michigan and Detroit, but will find it difficult to stay in a place that does not value its history.

This bill is unnecessary and must not move forward.

Thank you for hearing my statement of opposition,

Sincerely,
Melissa Arrowsmith